

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicant encloses a replacement formal drawing sheet 7 in which the reference numeral “11” in Figs 9-12 has been changed to “67”, and the reference numeral “12” in Fig. 9 has been changed to “67”.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Applicant cancels the non-elected claims 1-5 without prejudice to filing a divisional application further to prosecute claims 1-5.

Drawings

Applicant enclose a replacement drawing sheet number 7 in which the reference numerals 11 and 12 in Fig. 9-12 have been corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

Specification

The title of the invention has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. The Abstract has been amended to delete the word “means” as required by the Examiner. The specification has been amended to insert the headings suggested by the USPTO Guidelines.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 6-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, in view of the above amendments to the claims.

The Examiner appears to object to the literal English translation of the European style claims employing the introductory clause, “characterized by the following features”; however, this form of claim is authorized by the MPEP; furthermore, the Examiner will note that the claims do, in fact, positively recite structural elements together with functions thereof.

Since the Examiner appears to think that the translated term “coupon arrangement” is unclear, Applicant has chosen the word “assembly” to replace the translated term “arrangement” for identifying the device 15 illustrated in Fig. 1, for example.

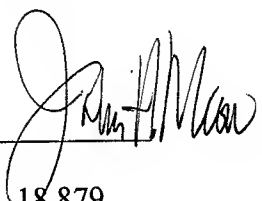
In summary, then, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all objections requirements and rejections and to find the application to be in condition

for allowance with all of claims 6-17; however, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant files concurrently herewith a Petition (with fee) for Extension of Time of one month.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,


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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

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